



**COCHISE COUNTY
SHERIFF 'S OFFICE**
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520-432-9500

Special points of interest:

- 5.5.16 Training and Meeting Foothills Station
- 5.7.2016 Swift Water Training, Salt River
- 5.10.16 Search for Autistic child Sierra Vista— Call out only , found prior to personnel arriving on scene
- 5.14.2016 Canine Training, Fairbanks
- 5.21.2016 Tech and mounted training West Stronghold
- 5.21.2016 Search Mission Ghost Town Trail
- 5.26.2016 Assist Detectives with remains search
- 5.30.2016 Search Crest Trail Chiricahua

Some team members went for a Memorial Day Hike in the Chiricahua's and assisted a family in locating two missing boys. Way to go team!

COCHISE COUNTY SHERIFF SEARCH AND RESCUE

This Month in Search and

May 2016

5.5.2016 Training and Meeting

Eric had all the team members in attendance practice with the throw bag. The throw bag is one of the competitions at the Swift Water Rodeo. The throw

moment, when to let go of the bag or one might kill a bird in flight. See picture below. This can happen, if you throw the bag incorrectly. Nice job Mike! The farthest distance is 75 feet. You have to throw over the subject and with an underhand

other side of the river and not the branches above. Practicing



bag is not as easy as one might think. Have to have the right



motion. The bag Mike deployed was supposed to reach the



this skill is extremely important- If you want to reach the subject needing help.

5.7.2016 Swift Water Training Salt River

Eric and Bill spearheaded this training for us. Ryan received his certification in swift water, while others trained on the same scenarios. Everyone had to go through the Self Rescue, such as barrel rolling into an eddy. Throw bags and rescuing a subject were also practiced, to include setting up a tension high line for a boat rescue. This was a fun filled hard training day. Mike and David experienced the unforgiveness of rocks while floating down river. We almost

had to rescue a tuber, who became separated from the group trying to run then swim after them. This guy had a death grip on his glasses, and went under a couple of times. David was ready to jump in and go

after the guy. Maricopa is pretty busy with drowning's occurring on the Salt River. Sun, water, and alcohol just don't mix very well. We did rescue two kayaks and the paddles. The occupants were pretty lucky not getting injured in any way while falling out and into the river. One of the subjects did wear a PFD, a child, the other, did not. Some lucky folks.



Swift Water Training continued

Hope I speak for Eric and Bill about Ryan having done an excellent job during his certification. For one, he truly can throw that throw bag.

Just a little Swift Water Checklist.

Establish Incident Command.

Personnel Accountability.

Exclude all persons having no business at the rescue site.

All rescuers must wear PFD and helmet.

Call for specialized equipment if needed.

Set up upstream spotter to warn of any approaching hazards floating down river.

Set up a downstream safety consisting of throw bags at a minimum. **MAKE SURE THE VICTIM DOES NOT GET DOWNSTREAM OF THE LAST RESCUE SYSTEM.**

Rescue team must be established to the abilities of the team.

Have a rescue plan, and how long will it take. What equipment is needed? How many people are needed? What are the dangers involved?

Make sure you have a back up plan and if needed and if enough personnel, set up the back up plan while the first plan is being tried.

Make sure a stake is placed at the water's edge allowing you to monitor if the water continues to rise.

We might also want to incorporate hand signals like we do during helo operations, since yelling across a swift running creek might not be feasible.

Ryan swimming into the current, then conducting a barrel roll, going into a safe swimming position, and then observing the safe eddy rule.



We all practiced this scenario, one cannot have enough practice dealing with swift water. More injuries occur during a swift water operation than any other rescue, next to helo operations.



During some of the monsoon flash floods we might have to conduct Wading Rescues in order to reach our subjects. The water should not be higher than mid calve or knee deep. The wedge / V formation or Line formation must head straight into the current. Support the person in front. Get a solid foot placement prior to each movement. Do not rush. If necessary abort and return to shore before getting washed away. Never attempt a shallow water crossing by yourself. Minimum is two preferably three or more rescuers, depending on the scenario.



While working on the strainer scenario we rescued one kayak and almost had to go in after a subject who fell out of group of tubers.



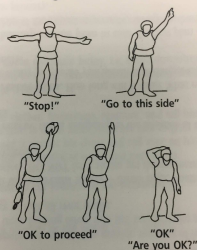
The last scenario was a rescue via boat and tension high line.



"Many of us are more capable than some of us...but none of us is as capable as all of us!!"

Tom Wilson

River Hand Signals



When in the water...

"I need help!" "I'm okay"

Swift Water continued

Dominic was the “subject” needing rescue; while the team set up the system. Tension High Line and raft attachments. Boat handlers were Ryan and Scott. The raft team had to



overcome the raise/lower line from the raft to the tension line being too short and had to add a throw bag into the system.

The team must have a really good boat captain giving the commands allowing the team members to row in unison and not all over the place. Gaby remarked this is almost like being on a galley with the boat captain/coxswain (AKA pacesetter) keeping us in row rhythm and going. Eric definitely did not allow any kind of slacking. Thank you Eric.



The last scenario we all got involved in was boat handling.

“A boat doesn’t go forward if each one is rowing their own way.”
Swahili Proverb



5.10.2016 Search 9 year old Autistic Boy Sierra Vista area

David activated the team around 2000 hrs to search for a missing 9 year autistic male. Several members responded and were almost on scene, when David send out the cancel. This could have been an all night search.

Searches for missing children are a challenge in itself, searching for children with special needs present other difficult and/or unique challenges. Missing children with autism have a

tendency to wander or elope from a safe environment and will often seek bodies of water such as streams, ponds, lakes, rivers, creeks, storm water retention basins, as well as backyard and public swimming pools. According to statistics, drowning is the leading cause of death for children and adults with autism, with many of these incidents occurring during wandering-related episodes. Children

with autism may also be interested in or fascinated by other things posing a dangers such as roadways, trains, heavy equipment, etc. We have to very early on identify the unique interests of the child and their favorite places. We have to ask everyone who knows the child about the child’s interests, fascinations, stimulating, or obsessions, when

developing our search plan. Some important information and or clues could be developed. [Wwww.missingkids.org](http://www.missingkids.org) compiled a pretty good lists of questions to ask regarding missing kids with special needs. The site also has a list for initial responders to include SAR.

June 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Schedule of Events

6.2.16 training & meeting 7130 Foot-hills Station

6.4.16 Swift Water Rodeo Phoenix

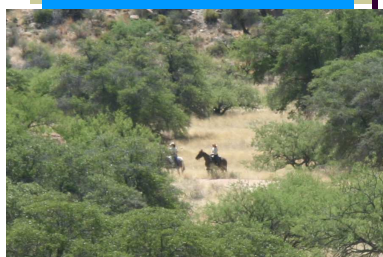
6.16.16 Coordinator training

6.18.16 Canine first Aid, Foothills Station 0900 hrs.

Dr. Scuba Corner

“In teamwork, silence isn’t golden, it’s deadly.”

Mark Sanborn



6.21.2016 Tech & Mounted Training W Stronghold

Jake and Mike spearheaded the mounted training for the group, while, Bill, Deuce, Dominic and Mike planned the scenario for all our new technical rescue folks. We could not have asked for better weather. Nice with a little breeze, perfect. Jake made sure all the mounted folks were capable of handling their horses, and gave his blessing for field work. So, in the near future, if our searches require a large area search, our mounted group has a mission. Three of our mounted folks, who did not leave after the training, were deployed into to field for the search of a lost female in the area of Ghost Town Trail later that day. From what I have heard, this field training was quite rigorous, and riders now know what they have to concentrate/work on to become really proficient with

their mount.



Our tech folks were faced with other challenges. Since we had been very busy with missions over the passed several months, and having quite a few new people in our group, our tech training focused more on the basic skills of technical rescue. When the hasty team during this scenario asked for the Vortex, some of our new people were a little baffled of what the Vortex was. Actually,

only members of the hasty team had set up the Vortex, none of the new members had. Quite the learning experience. We will incorporate Vortex training at the station, to get every one familiar and re-familiar with the Vortex and its multiple applications.



Tech & Mounted training continued

Our new tech people conquered the challenge and under the watchful eyes/instructions from Bill and Deuce they were able to set up the lower/haul system to include the belay. Great job guys. Part of the system is ready to go.



could not make out where it came from. So we investigated. Two of our mounted folks heard the same pointing us into the direction. Were some



climbers and one of the was a little stuck. The system is al-



Manny is helping Dominic to place Scott, our subject, into the stokes.



Dominic is waiting for the haul, however, we had to suspend this portion of the training due to the search mission over at Ghost Town Trail.

Normally we would set up the Vortex and the systems simultaneously, However due to the learning curve, both were done separate and by everyone.



While the tech team worked on their systems, the mounted group returned to their base from their field training. Jake and Mike exposed the horses to some real police sounds, via the sirens. From what we saw from the distance, the horses were okay with that.

One of our volunteers heard some type of call for help "get me down from here!" but



ready to go, Mike and Brian are



the edge technicians for Manny, who will be lowered with the stokes.

**"Be as great in
act as you have
been in
thought."**

**William
Shakespeare**

5.21.2016 Search Mission Ghost Town Trail

During our tech training scenario, David received a phone call from dispatch in regard to a lost person in the Sunsites/Pearce area. The subject called on 9-1-1 stating she got her vehicle stuck and is now on foot. The subject further said she did not know where she was and was hurting. The call came in around 1247 hours, right in the middle of the haul scenario. Luckily, Dominic and his subject (Scott) were only a

couple of feet off the ground, and it was easy to convert to a lower. All systems were torn down in no time and the team headed to the location of the search on Ghost Town Trail. Three of our mounted personnel was still at the training site and they responded via Gleeson Rd, since Middlemarch over the pass was a bit difficult for horse trailers. Once on scene we received a briefing from on scene deputies.



"The habits you acquire have the greatest impact on your success."

J.J. Goldwag

Continued next page

July 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 Happy Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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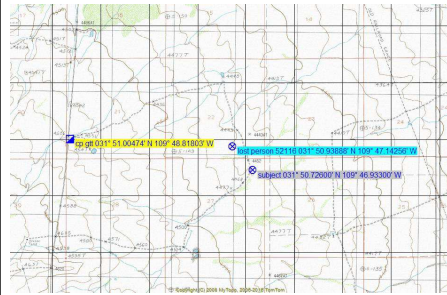
Schedule of Events

- 7.2.16 No training
ENJOY YOUR LONG WEEKEND
- 7.7.16 Training and Meeting Foothills Station
- 7.16.16 Tech Training
- 7.21.16 Coordinator Training Foothills Station
- 7.30.16 Tech training

Search Mission Ghost Town Trail continued

We did have the coordinates from the 9-1-1 call, which gave an accuracy of 8 meters. Another coordinate provided by the cell phone provider placed the subject quite some distance away from the original LKP. Geronimo also assisted in this search and was assigned the second coordinates for exclusion. .

All teams were deployed to the location of the LKP (last known point) and instructed to check for any foot sign in the area.



Two canines teams were also deployed, one Air Scenting dog (Roxy) and one tracking dog (Heidi).

Within a couple of minutes of the search team having checked the area of the LKP they notified command post (CP) of having discovered foot sign and messaged a photo with compass heading to CP. The foot sign was heading east and then south on a dirt road. Within minutes CP was notified of one of the canine teams (Roxy and Walter) having located the subject under a mesquite tree. The subject was extremely sunburned and dehydrated. Geronimo flew to their location and transported the female with Gaby to the CP, where she was turned over to medics and then transported to the Willcox hospital for further treatment.

Walter was and I believe still is above the clouds, a minimum of 7 feet. Roxy was just great, the wind direction and everything worked together and they found our subject under a tree. Great Job Roxy, you rock!!



Just prior to the briefing of all personnel.

Geronimo heading to their assigned search segment



Upon the arrival of our mounted team they were deployed as well, but never made it to their assigned area, since the canine team found the subject.

Geronimo assisted in flying the subject back



to CP. Gaby was tasked with flying with the subject since she is one of our medical personnel.



Gaby was trying to clean David's brand new truck, but ran out of water.



From Commander Alien: I am impressed with your team. They rock and roll. Yup you guys know how to get it done. Yes you guys and gals are the bomb. We could not do this job without you. Thank you.

In General

C H L V H G S I N F A R C I P R S B D E
 G O T S O W C I T H T E U M B T D R D N
 Z I M T E R C N Q G S E Y Y V R V B I I
 S W N M O T T I M C S T R A I N I N G L
 L I U T A P A E R T D N Q B I J H O S W
 T T G Y H N C N X T I U G Q C E K H Z O
 N K H N A O D U I S P L Y X F D N U U B
 E N Q B M S X K J D O O Q S Z N S W V J
 C O H P F Y F O O T R V P Q W N Y Z Y E
 S T A O W S K T K Y Q O X S E A R C H H
 I S M M P T O D U U F H O V D B R S O S
 S F R H R E B D L W N N C C L F C E N E
 G A R G C M E I C E T M S S T I U G P N
 E Y T L N N P G F A I T J S D X P M D D
 J L E P G I Q T W X O F O E S V D E A Z
 J Q K I J U D X A K H P M W P O D N K A
 S Y S G N I R A E B R E T A W L T T C E
 P S W E Z O C S E G M Z J F M M N B A J
 A B K V E Q B Y Z H X G N S J J G I U Q
 E C M C J T C U X X W F T A O A R B K V

AIR

BOWLINE

COORDINATES

HEADING

POST

SEGMENT

SYSTEM

VORTEX

ASSIGNED

COMMAND

FIELD

KNOT

SCENT

SIGN

TRAINING

WATER

BEARING

COMPASS

FOOT

MEDICS

SEARCH

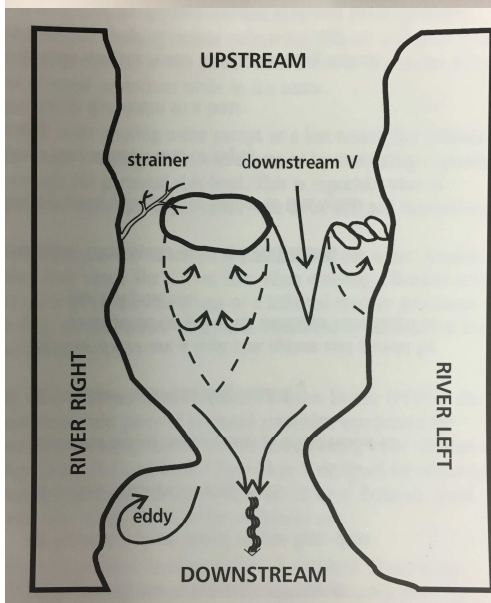
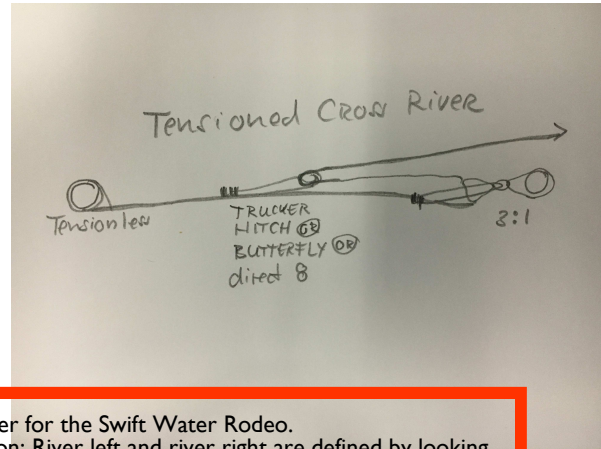
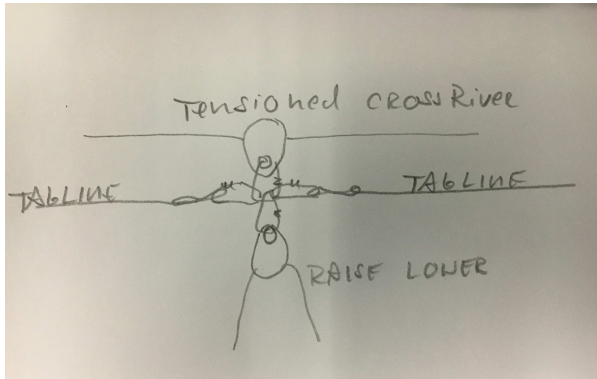
STOKES

VOLUNTEER

“Don’t participate in conduct today that will weigh heavy on the conscience tomorrow”

J. J. Goldwag

Swift Water Applications



To remember for the Swift Water Rodeo.
River direction; River left and river right are defined by looking down stream.
An eddy is created by solid obstacles.
A downstream V or tongue form where the water flows between obstacles.
Obstacles allowing for water to run through such as tree branches are strainers.

Vehicle involvement:

Again, make sure the current is not deeper than your knees
Make sure of upstream spotter calling out floating debris, tree trunks, etc.

Have down stream safety with throw bag.

Make sure the vehicle is secured with a stabilization line.

Do not follow the stabilization line.

Make sure you take a PFD and helmet for each subject.

Head the formation, wedge or line formation, directly into the current.

Abort if the formation is not totally stable.

Move laterally to the rear of the vehicle and watch for any instability of the vehicle.

If the vehicle is stable move into the eddy created by the vehicle.
Get the PFD and helmet correctly onto each subject inside the vehicle or sitting on top.

If using a V (Wedge) formation make sure each subject is in the middle or pocket.

Move laterally to the safe bank.

Repeat the process for each subject.

Be Safe

5.26.2016 Assist Detectives with Remains Search

The initial call out for this mission occurred the night before, asking for personnel to assist with a remains search east of St. David. Search personnel met around 0630 at the school and then deployed to the area of the search. Personnel and a cadaver dog "Odin" with handler Patti were deployed as well. I have seen Odin during training and his nose is quite impressive. According to David,

Odin found several of the scattered remains. Way to go Odin! This is the second search in a row, where our canines found either our subject, or in this case the small remains



left after months of being exposed to the elements and being scattered by animals.



Odin is not trying to hide from the sun, he is going after a training aid placed under the trailer. Training and continued training is a must for all good dogs in order to keep them on task.

